

# **Manufacturing Innovation Fund Advisory Board**

## *Meeting Minutes*

Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)

December 11, 2014

11:30 AM-12:30 PM

505 Hudson Street

Hartford, Connecticut

### **Attendance**

- **Board Members:** Commissioner Catherine H. Smith (Chair)
- **Board Members via Phone:** Donald Balducci, Colin Cooper, Beverlee Dacey, Chris DiPentima, Danny DiPerna, John Harrity
- **Quorum:** Yes
- **Others Present:** Deputy Commissioner Ronald Angelo, Barbara Fernandez, Karla Lindquist, Amy Lopez, Carmen Molina-Rios, Deb Russo
- **Others Present via Phone:** Bonnie DelConte, Aaron Frankel, Elliot Ginsberg, Tom Maloney, Paul Striebel, Rob Torrani

### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Chair Commissioner Catherine H. Smith at 11:31 AM.

#### **Public Meeting:**

- 1.) Welcome and Review of Agenda by Chair Commissioner Catherine Smith
- 2.) **Vote:** Approval of meeting minutes from November meeting, motion by Colin Cooper, seconded by Chair Commissioner Catherine Smith, unanimously approved
- 3.) Update on Voucher Program led by Carmen Molina-Rios
  - a. Two voucher program applications have been completed, ten more pending
  - b. Feedback on voucher program application and website invited from Board members to DECD and CCAT staff
    - a. Beverlee Dacey notes areas where changes should be made to voucher program website
    - b. Paul Striebel/DECD to change language around \$10,000 minimum for program applications, add vendor information, more information about \$50,000 maximum
    - c. Paul Striebel/DECD to remove option for allied services applicants
  - c. Board will discuss options regarding preferential status for companies in the targeted manufacturing zones list during January meeting.
- 4.) Update on Business Concierge by Beverlee Dacey
  - a. Subgroup reviewed upcoming Business Portal from DECD and thought it met needs

- b. Vendor resources and links will be added to Business Portal and voucher website
- 5.) Update on Incumbent Worker Training by Carmen Molina-Rios
  - a. Draft of MOU between DECD and DOL, based on Ohio model, will be brought to January Board meeting for review and approval along with details of program itself.
- 6.) Update on Apprenticeships by Danny DiPerna
  - a. Apprenticeships subgroup to meet with DOL next week, will report back to full Board during January meeting
- 7.) CCAT Advanced Composite Initiative Proposal by Elliot Ginsberg
  - a. Program will fill the gap in need for composite machining
  - b. CCAT has been working on developing program proposal since April 2014
  - c. Industry partners will also contribute to program, labor and administrative support will not be funded through bonded funds
  - d. More detailed budget will be submitted with DECD staff prior to funding
  - e. **Vote:** Approval of Phase 1 funding (\$2.9 million in total, to be released in phases, first phase of \$1.5 million) for Composite Program, motion by John Harrity, seconded by Beverlee Dacey, approved 6-0 (recusal by Donald Balducci)
- 8.) Commission on Connecticut's Future Report update by Chair Commissioner Catherine Smith
  - a. Karla Lindquist to distribute report to MIF Advisory Board members which recommends additional priorities and board members for the MIF.
- 9.) 2015 Meeting Schedule
  - a. Meetings to take place Tuesdays, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
  - b. **Vote:** Approval of 2015 meeting schedule, motion by Chair Commissioner Catherine Smith, seconded by Colin Cooper, unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned by motion from Chair Commissioner Catherine Smith, seconded by Beverlee Dacey, unanimously approved, 12:22 PM.